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October 20, 2003

Chairman Deborah Taylor Tate
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0505

RE: *Implementation of the Federal Communications Commission's
Triennial Review Order-9 Month Proceeding-Hot Cuts*
Docket No. 03-00526
Sprint's Comments on Mediation

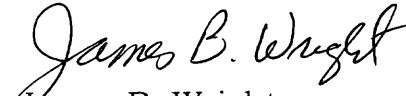
Dear Chairman Tate:

In response to your October 10, 2003 letter as mediator in the above case, United Telephone-Southeast, Inc., Sprint Communications Company L.P., and Sprint Spectrum L.P. d/b/a Sprint PCS (jointly "Sprint") provide the following comments.

Sprint agrees that mediation appears to be an ideal vehicle for use in a proceeding such as envisioned in the instant case. Resources can be conserved through workshops and cooperative non-adversarial meetings and discussions, guided and monitored by a mediator. BellSouth's multi-state operations should also lend themselves to a regional approach and interested parties could again reduce costs through a process that does not involve re-inventing the wheel in each state case. Thank you for offering to serve as the mediator. We look forward to fruitful results.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,


James B. Wright

cc: Laura Sykora
Kaye Odum